

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image reader comprising a reading glass plate facing to an optical
5 scanning system and a platen roller provided opposing to the reading glass plate;
both being grounded. It is combined with an automatic sheet feeder, which
comprises a retardation roller containing torque limiters and corrugation rollers.
Optimized combination of these rollers provides an ideal sheet transfer and avoids
overlaid sheet transfer. Generation of paper dusts and toner particles is
10 minimized in the optimized sheet transfer. Furthermore, sticking of such dusts
and particles on the reading glass plate and the platen roller is prevented in an
image reader of the present invention. Thus the image reader reads out high
quality images without being affected by dispersed paper dusts or toner particles,
while overlaid transfer of mother document sheets is prevented in the sheet feeder.